TWO CENTS.

No. 16,673.

WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, MAY 19, 1906-THIRTY-TWO PAGES.

Tucker at Newport News

ON THE EVE OF HIS ARREST

\$10,000.

DOORS OF SAVINGS BANK CLOSED

First Suspicion Against Deceased Received This Morning in a Note Written Before Rash Act.

NORFOLK, Va., May 19.-Irwin Tucker, president of the Savings Bank of Newport News, Va., committed suicide in his room over the bank in Newport News today just as Chief of Police Reynolds of that city opened his door to arrest him upon a warrant charging him with defaulting in the sum of \$10,000. Tucker heard Chief Reynolds ask a negre porter on the outside as to the location of his room, and standing in front of a mirror put a bullet through his right temple as the door was thrown

The doors of the savings bank have been closed pending an investigation which is now being made by the board of directors. One report is to the effect that the shortage may amount to \$29,000, but the directors state that the exact amount of the defalcation has not yet been determined.

The first suspicion that Tucker was a defaulter was received this morning in a note written by the suicide himself. This note was found shortly after the doors of the bank were opened today, it having been placed on the desk of Cashier R. Carter Perkins. Tucker admitted that he was short in his accounts, and said if any attempt was made to arrest him he would commit suicide. Immediately the directors of the bank were called together and a hurried examination resulted in the issuance of the warrant. It was suspected that Tucker had left Newport News, and the police of Norfolk and other neighboring cities were asked to look out for him.

Insurance Will Cover Alleged Loss. Chief Reynolds then went to make an investigation of Tucker's bachelor apartments over the savings bank, where the tragedy occurred. An examination of a safety deit box in the savings bank fact that Tucker's life was insured for

330,000, which will cover all of his alleged defalcation.

The savings bank of Newport News was largely patronized by the laboring classes of Newport News. President Tucker was about forty years

He was the son of former Mayor John S. Tucker of Norfolk, now a retired law-yer of Washington, D. C.
Mr. Tucker was formerly city editor of the old Norfolk Virginian and was post-master of Newport News under the Cleve-land administration.

FRANKLIN MEDAL PRESENTED. Auspicious Ceremony at Paris Today

-Thanks for Americans. PARIS. May 19 .- At today's meeting of the council of ministers Premier Bourgeois presented the medal given by the United States to France in commemoration of the Franklin anniversary. The council decided to send a message of thanks to President Roosevelt and the American nation and also to establish a special section in the mint, where the medals commemorative of Washington, Lafayette, Paul Jones, Franklin and others connected with the early ties be-tween France and the United States will

CAUSED EARTHQUAKE SCARE. Two Terrific Power Explosions Shook Wisconsin Towns.

RACINE, Wis., May 19 .- Two terrific explosions which shook buildings throughout this city occurred today and hundreds of persons leaped from their beds, believing there had been an earthquake. Later it was ascertained that the shocks were caused by an explosion at the Rand & Laffin powder mills, located in Pleasant Prairie. Kenosha county. Messages from that place state that the glaze and press rooms and the corning mill were blown to pieces, involving a loss of \$25,000.

Windows in houses throughout the villages were broken and some damage done, but there was no loss of life, only one man being knocked down by the shock. The main mills are intact and can be operated. The cause of the explosion is not known. It was felt throughout Racine and Kenosha

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., May 19 .- Two supposed earthquake shocks were felt in western Michigan at 3:20 o'clock this morning. Distinct shocks are reported from Holland, Grand Haven, Fennville and Bangor. The first shock lasted about six seconds and the second about three seconds. Residents of Holland rushed out of their houses in night attire, the quake having thrown open many doors. Rumblings like thunder were heard around the shores of Black lake. No serious damage is reported. The shocks were co-incident with the powder explosions directly across Lake Michigan in Wisconsin.

SIMPLON TUNNEL OPENED.

Notable Inaugural by King Victor Emmanuel Today.

DOMODOSSOLA, Italy, May 19 .- The Simplon tunnel was inaugurated by King Victor Emmanuel today, who left here at on the east to Bessemer, Mich., on the west, 10:55 a.m. for Brique, on the Swiss side of the mountain. The Roal train passed through the twelve miles of tunnel drawn by a steam engine, the electric motors not being ready. On reaching the middle of the tunnel, at a height of 2,200 feet above the sea level, the king was heard to exclaim: "It is a Cyclopic work, the result of

a half century of study, seven years of work and the expenditure of nearly \$15,-At Brique the king, who was accompanied by Premier Sonnino, the minister of public works, and a large number of other officials, was received by the president of the Swiss republic and the members of the federal council, the national council and the council of state and other officials to

Suicide of Bank President Fierce Forest Fires in Michigan and Wisconsin.

DESTROY MUCH PROPERTY

Charged With the Defalcation of Settlements and Farm Houses Wiped

LOSSES WILL REACH MILLIONS

Communication With Points Shut Off by Burning of Telegraph and Telephone Poles.

WILWAUKEE, Wis., May 19 .- An Evening Wisconsin special from Escanaba,

The forest fires in northern Michigan have almost swept blank an area of 100 square miles. Whether or not any human lives were lost it is impossible to say, nor is it possible to tell at present how much damage to property has been done.

When communication by railway, telegraph and telephone is established-which will probably be within thirty-six hoursa forest fire story can be obtained. It is believed that developments will be startling. An Evening Wisconsin correspondent spent all night and several hours th's morning in an effort to gain a general review of the fire situation for his paper, and finds that the loss will be several millions of dollars. He has been unable to find any loss of life, but 6,000 people are homeless, it is estimated.

The damage done, epitomized as well as possible under the circumstances, follows: Raiph—Town of 100 people, almost wiped

Alfred-Population, 200; every house and huge piles of logs burned.

Alvole—Population, 400; boarding house, railway station, big stores of logs and ties

Quinnesec-Population, 100, destroyed; all residents homeless. Cornell-All but one store burned; 300 per ple homeless.

Northland—Mill and six houses burned; many of the 600 population homeless and without food.
Antoine—Mining town; houses and one lumber mill burned, boarding houses de-stroyed and all but a few of 700 people

Felch Mountain, branch Northwestern railway—All bridges burned and scores of homesteaders in that section, covering ten square miles, homeless. It is feared there was loss of life here.

Northland branch. Escanaba and Lake Superior railway—Five million feet of cut logs burned, bridges down and line tied up completely.

and Marquette counties bear the brunt of the loss. The Isaac Stephenson Lumber Company, the Pittsburg and Lake Superior Iron Company, the Escanaba Woodenware Company and other concerns suffer the greatest loss. Some of the towns partly or wholly destroyed belong entirely to the corporations.

Three train loads of homeless people have already arrived in Escanaba. Thousands of others are believed to be homeless and suf-

fering from want of food, clothing and other necessities. That there will be much suffering there is no question. Arrange-ments for aid and offers to give assistance are reaching this city from lower Michigan and Wisconsin.

Reports today indicate that the fire is

being swept northward, and that it is dying out in many places. The wind has
changed so that such towns as Escanaba,
Marquette and the larger places in the
district are out of danger, but there is still
an immense amount of hardwood timber in

but only one house was burned. At Wood-lawn, Mich., several cars of ties burned. Other reports say that Spring Valley, Mich., near Stambaugh, is surrounded by fiames and people are fighting hard to save the town. It is also said that the big hardwood factory at Homansville, Mich., has been destroyed, Perronville, in Menomihas been destroyed, Perronville, in Menominee county, was surrounded by flames last night, but was saved. At Loomis, Wis., a school house was wiped out and the teacher and pupils had a narrow escape.

The only rumor of large loss of life comes indirectly from Saunders, in Iron county, which is said to have been burned. It is absolutely impossible at present to

IMPOSSIBLE TO ESTIMATE.

Losses by the Fires Will Reach Millions.

get information

DETROIT, Mich., May 19 .- A special to the Journal from Marquette, Mich., says it is impossible as yet to give a reliable or accurate estimate of the total loss resulting from the forest fires which are raging through several hundred miles of the upper peninsula. From reports already in, however, it is thought that the loss will be considerably more than a million dollars.

Wires are down in many directions, poles having been burned. The South Shore railroad was compelled to cancel its Duluth trains last night, as fires are reported along the line of the road for 250 miles east and

the line of the road for 250 miles east and west of this city.

Reports received thus far today indicate that the towns of Quinnesec and Schaeffer, in Dickinson county; Cornell, Good Lawn and Ralph, in Delta county, and Saunders, in Iron county, have been destroyed. The following places are reported to be in peril of destruction by the fires raging around them: Sidnaw, Dagget, Northland, Powers, Birch and Pentoga Mich. and Florence. them: Sidnaw, Dagget, Northland, Fowner, Birch and Pentoga, Mich., and Florence, Commonwealth and Niagara, in Wisconsin

DOTTED WITH FIRES.

Over 250 Miles of Territory Swept by Flames.

MILWAUKEE, Wis., May 19.-An Evening Wisconsin special from Marquette, Mich., says: A stretch of territory over 250 miles in length, reaching from Newbery and north and south between the shore line of Lake Superior and the southern boundary of the upper peninsula is dotted with forest fires.

Settlements and farms have been wiped out, timber lands destroyed and hundreds of persons rendered homeless. It is im-possible to estimate the financial loss, but figured on the basis of local conditions it is probable that hundreds of the

The loss in the immediate vicinity of Mar quette is over \$50,000, involving only the destruction of personal property and not including devastations of timber lands or damage to railroad property.

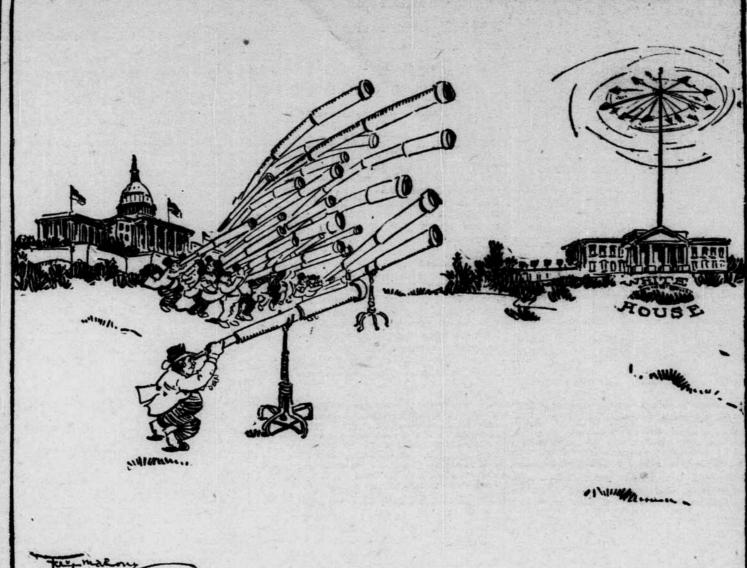
The town of Quinnesec and several ham

the council of state and other officials to the number of about 500.

In the speeches which followed the meeting of the king and the president much mtisfaction was expressed at the opening of the tunnel, which was completed as far as piercing the mountain was concerned as february last.

The town of Quinnessec and several hamlets in Menominee iron range are reported wiped out. Northwest of Marquette the Company has fully 3600,000 worth of property, was threatened with destruction and men were sent from here by special train to fight the flames.

Because of the destruction



WATCHING THE WHITE HOUSE WEATHER VANE. The President believes in the maxim that a man is a fool who does not change his mind every twentyfour hours.—Senator Rayner.]

graph poles, wires are down in all direc-tions and communication by that means is impossible. Unless rains falls soon much more havec will be wrought as the woods are very dry.

HEMMED IN BY FIRE.

Dangerous Situation at Wausaukee,

WAUSAUKEE, Wis., May 19.-Wausaukee, Marinette county, is hemmed in by forest fires, which are slowly creeping closer. Millions of feet of lumber have been burned. The loss is estimated at \$100,000. At Cedarville the fires have destroyed

A flerce wind is blowing sparks and burning embers for miles. Hundreds of cords of hardwood piled near the tracks are burning. The Bird and Wells Lumber Company

has suffered an enormous loss. Several of their camps are destroyed. Three miles south of this place another

fire is raging. The flames in some places are thirty feet high. A special from Marinette, Wis., says: Forest fires, fanned by a gale, swept over five counties of the upper peninsula—Delta, Dickinson, Menominee, Marquette and Alger and one or two counties in northwestern Wisconsin, including Marinette, Friday aftwisconsin, including Marinette, Friday atternoon and night, destroying thousands of dollars' worth of property, and wiping out several small towns. It is hard to estimate the loss, but it will undoubtedly reach

2300 000 Reports today indicate that the wind has changed to the north, and the fires are dying out. The fires reached as far north as Goose Lake, south to Peehtigo in this county, west to Stambaugh, Mich., and east to points in Alger county. There was no loss of life as far as known although three loss of life as far as known, although three children are said to be missing in Quinnesoc, Mich., many were badly burned in escaping and hundreds of people fied to the railroads, getting out of the burning county as fast as possible. Hundreds of homes of

Definite information today concerning the fire is about as follows: The village of Talbot, Mich., narrowly escaped being destroyed. A changed wind saved it. The Northwestern railway depot, the general store of L. S. Fiddler, eight residences and much lumber, shingles, codar poles and other property was destroyed, the loss being about \$20.000.

FUTURE OF RATE BILL

INFORMAL CONFERENCE OF THE HEPBURN COMMITTEE PROPOSED

When the railroad rate bill reaches the House from the Senate, which probably will be Monday, Chairman Hepburn will make the request that it lie on the Speaker's table pending an informal conference of the republican and democratic members of the committee on interstate and foreign commerce, which is to be called as soon as a print of the bill with the Senate amendments included is available.

This conference of the members of the committee has been decided upon by Representative Hepburn as the proper way to get the sense of the members of the committee of both parties, in view of the unanimous action of that committee in re-

mittee of both parties, in view of the unanimous action of that committee in reporting the bill.

After a discussion of the Senate amendments in this manner, the bill doubtless will be considered by the committee in regular session. Should differences arise between the democrats and republicans on the committee, caucuses of the members separately might be held before a request is made for a conference with the Senate.

There is no likelihood, in the opinion of those in touch with the situation, that the House will at once accept the amendments of the Senate, the refusal of which necessitates a conference. As to the House conferees on the bill, Chairman Hepburn of the committee is the only member who can be definitely named at the present time. Representative Sherman of New York is the ranking republican member, but Mr. Sherman is chairman of the Indian affairs committee and has had limited opportunity to consider the rate question. Representative Davey of Louisiana is the ranking democrat on the committee and entitled to be named as the minority member of the conference committee.

Presidential Nominations Confirmed. The Senate, in executive session, has con

Registers of land offices-J. H. Batte field, Dardanelle, Ark.; Harry G. Friedhelm, Camden, Ark.; John I. Worthington Harrison, Ark.

Receivers of land offices-

Horace L. Wash

FILIBUSTERED IN VAIN

MR. WILLIAMS SMILINGLY AC-CEPTED HIS DEFEAT.

The minority leader of the House, John Sharp Williams of Mississippi, made his last stand today in opposition to the bill paying the heirs of Samuel Lee \$10,400 as allowances for the contest he made for a seat in the Forty-seventh Congress. When the House adjourned last night

after an all day's fillbuster against the many cars loaded with lumber. Many big measure on the part of the democrats the cases of cruelty, but as there are not kilns filled with cedar have also burned. motion to reconsider the vote passing the enough men in tidewater counties who unbill was not made, the members of the House becoming restive and desirous of getting away to dinner and evening enragements. Immediately after the approval of the

journal today Mr. Miller (Kan.), having the bill in charge, made the parliamentary motion to reconsider the vote and lay that motion on the table. Mr. Williams, still holding the bridge, but

recognizing his growing weakness, made the point of no quorum when the division showed in the affirmative 99, in the negative, 55. The Speaker immediately ordered the doors closed and directed the sergeant-at-arms to bring in absentees, the vote to table the motion to reconsider taken by yeas and nays. at 12:45 p.m. a quorum appeared. The motion to lay on the table was adopted;

yeas, 129; nays, 59; present, 32.

Mr. Williams, realizing that he had been "run over," desired to know whether he could move to reconsider the vote by which the title of the bill was amended. the title of the bill was amended.

Mr. Miller made the point that the motion was dilatory, and the Speaker sustained the point. Then quizzically turning to Mr. Williams the Speaker asked: "And doesn't the gentleman from Mississippi himself think that the motion is dilatory?" which was greeted with applause.

Laughingly Mr. Williams replied that he could see no difference between his motion.

could see no difference between his motion to reconsider and the motion of the gentle-

man from Kansas.

The Speaker replied that it was a matter of "leather and prunella," and he would therefore have to decide the motion out of of the House desired the passage of the measure, and he was in the chair to aid in

orderly legislation.

Mr. Williams smilingly turned away as the House proceeded with other business.

DESTITUTES GROWING FEWER. Gen. Greely Reports Satisfactory Progress at San Francisco.

Gen. Greely at San Francisco telegraphed the War Department today as follows: "Weather fine; health continues excellent everything progressing satisfactorily, with gradual diminution of number of destitutes, which possibly may fall below 100,000 today, as regards food. Am relieving Pitcher, McGunnigle and Howe. Some dissatisfaction exists of my announced inten-tion of withdrawing army June 1.

POPE SUFFERS FROM GOUT. Ordered by His Doctor to Remain in

Bed. ROME, May 19 .- When Dr. Lapponi vis-

ited the pope this morning he found his padent in an improved condition of health, although the pontiff passed a somewhat restess night as the result of his attack of gout. Owing to a slight rise in this temperature Dr. Lapponi ordered the pope to remain in bed for several days.

The pope has suspended his audiences, owing to the fact that he is suffering from gout. Dr. Lapponi yesterday visited the pope and ordered him to bed. His holiness obeyed reluctantly. It is expected that the pontiff will be unable to attend the ceremony on Sunday in St. Peter's of the beatification of the Dominican friars who lost their lives in Tonquin.

COL. TA MIRA DEAD

Former Military Attache of Mexican Legation Here.

PEKING, May 19 .- Col. La Mira, Mexian minister to China, and former military attache of the Mexican legation at Washgton, who was injured during a recent His funeral, which will take place tomor

row, will be attended by all the m the diplomatic corps at Peking, who will sllow the coffin to the international come-TO PREVENT SHANGHATING.

in favorable action by the House committee on merchant marine and fisheries on a bill to prevent that practice. Testimony was given before the committee by United States District Attorney John C. Rose of Baltimore. The bill was recently introduced by Mr. Morrell of Pennsylvania. Even with this attempt to stop the practice, the report of the committee states that in eight out of ten cases it would be impossible by any definition of shanghaiing to make out a case against the wrong-

"Where the natives who are experienced in the oyster industry are concerned," Mr. Rose stated, "there are comparatively few derstand this oyster industry who are willing to go every season, generally just before the oyster dredging season begins (late in September or early in October), the shipping agents in Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York make arrangements to engage all the people they can for the oyster industry.

"They generally get from \$10 to \$12 a head for every man delivered by them on board a vessel. That \$10 or \$12 a head the captain deducts from the wages that the men are supposed to receive. The men are seldom or never told that this reduction is to be made

"These men are lied to in the most part, and they are usually told that they can go ashore overnight and that the work is light and easy. In many fistances they are just recovering from a debauch, and they are both physically and as to clothing utterly unsdapted to stand the exposure. They are sick, miserable and disgusted. The work is hard, and, not knowing how to do the work, they are slow to do it or cannot do it at all. The captain is a poor cannot do it at all. The captain is a poor man. Sometimes he owns his boat, but more frequently he operates it on shares; and he pays to the shipping agent \$10 or \$12 per man, and if he cannot get the work out of the men after he gets them down by the bay he loses the profits of his whole winter's work; and being usually a man of no particular education and of no particular control over his passions, the only thing he can do there is to make these fellows work by compulsion, and the only way he knows how to make them work is to beat and cuff and hammer them until they do work. Then they try to escape and are drowned or are beaten until they are desperately injured."

EXACTIONS OF STATES

MAX COHEN SAYS THEY BEAR HEAVILY ON POLICYHOLDERS.

"I am willing to go on record that even the one million dollars which was spent by President McCall, under the auspices of 'Andy' Hamilton, was justifiable. And I further say it has not only saved millions of dollars to the policyholders of that company, but millions of dollars to the policyholders of other companies."

The House committee on the judiclary listened to this statement today. It was made by Max Cohen, publisher of an insurance paper in this city. The committee was considering the Ames insurance bill for the regulation of insurance in the District of Columbia.

Mr. Cohen made the further assertion that the entire amount of the alleged "graft" which the Armstrong committee discovered was not a tithe of the tax levied upor policy holders by the states. He justified the means which had been employed by the officers of companies to prevent state legislation of the "hold up" character. Officers of companies had taxed its policy holde for funds to prevent legislation to an ex tent not greater than from 25 to 40 cents an individual, he said, while exactions

Aim of Hill Just Reported to the

Next Chapter in Rate Bill's Legislative History.

NO EXECUTIVE DISAPPROVAL

President Not Likely to Veto the ST. ELIZABETH'S CONDITION Measure.

IT IS MR. ROOSEVELT'S BILL

Response of Congress to Public De-

mand for Some Kind of a Railway Rate Act. The next chapter in the legislative history

of the railway rate bill, which passed the Senate yesterday afternoon, will be written by the committee of conference of the two houses over the disagreeing votes of the House and Senate. It probably will be the final chapter, for though there have been rumors of a possible executive veto, the best posted men in Congress say they cannot see how the President can consistently veto the bill after it has been framed to his expressed satisfaction.

There is said to be only one possible loophole for executive disapproval, and that is the action of the Senate Friday afternoon, in striking out the words authorizing the interstate commerce commission to use its judgment. But as the preponderance of legal sentiment in the Senate was in favor of that elimination, it is not readily apparent how the President can side with the minority and make that action an issue.

So Many Surprises.

Still, there have been so many surprises in connection with the bill, some of them emanating from the White House, that senators are almost of a mind to be prepared for anything. Now that the noise and shouting has died

out and the work of the houses can be viewed in cold printers' ink, one fact stands viewed in cold printers' ink, one fact stands out pre-eminent, and that is that the bill is a conservative measure in its liability to court review. It's time for the "I told you so" man to come around and tell you that he foretold this from the beginning. Fortunately for the prophets, there have been so many sides to the situation from time to time that any one who prophesied as the thing changed can now turn to one or other of his prophecies and pick it out as his original position, so he is bound to win.

The conservatives are on top. So is the The conservatives are on top. So is the President; he beat them to it, and it's Received is bill any what they place. The Roosevelt's bill, say what they please. The politicians think the country is not likely to split hairs over the result, but will regard it in the concrete as the response of Congress to the public demand for some kind of a rallway rate regulating bill. If it is good enough for the President, they say, it will probably be accepted by the peo-

ple.
For example, the politicians say the country will not bother over the question of whether the interstate commerce commission was or was not sustained in its demand for the retention of the words "in its judgment" in the bill. The learned constipoint, deemed vital by some constitutional arguments in the Senate over that point, deemed vital by some constitutionalists, will probably be passed over by the people, who will say that anyhow they have secured a law regulating railway

Broad Court Review to Be Sustained. It is accepted as a foregone conclusion that the conference committee will stand by the Senate's broad court review proposition. It is assured that the amendment prohibiting railroads from owning coal mines will stay in the bill, especially in view of the testimony adduced by the interstate commerce commission in its pending investiga-tion in Philadelphia of the coal roads. Some of the statesmen at the Capitol predict an early agreement of the conferees and the speedy enactment of the bill into law. It'is thought to be assured that a trial case, to test the constitutionality of the law.

will be brought immediately after its passage. That will be the first step of the railroads. If the law is upheld their recourse thereafter would be to fight the specific rul-ings of the commission in the courts. Senator Morgan gave notice in the Senate yesterday that the governor of Alabama would take the earliest opportunity to test the bill in the courts, as it is regarded as inimical in its possibilities to that section of

MANY ASKED FOR AID. Report of Ministerial Board at Presby-

the country, and is also held to be an inva-sion of the rights of the state.

tery Meeting. DES MOINES, Iowa, May 19.-Commissioners and visitors to the 118th general assembly of Presbyterians of America were entertained at Fort Des Moines today fol-

lowing a short morning session. After listening to the report of the board of ministerial relief showing that more disabled members than ever before had asked for aid during the past year, the assembly voted in favor of a resolution offered by this board asking for an appropriation of \$4,000,000, to be expended in this cause.

An amendment made it incumbent upon the elder of the church to collect the amount from the entire church member ship at the rate of 10 cents each. Considerable interest is taken in Considerable interest is taken in the approaching discussion of the prayer book. Van Dyke's Common Book of Worship, copies of which have been placed on every member's desk, will probably receive the greatest attention. Members are waiting for reports on marriage and divorce before making comment. Other important questions will be allowed to go over until reports are made.

OCEAN STEAMSHIP MOVEMENTS.

SABLE ISLAND, May 19.-Steamer Minneapolis, from London for New York, was in communication with the Marconi station here when the vessel was 180 miles southeast of this point at 9:30 a.m. today. The Minneapolis will probably dock about 3:50

SIASCONSET, Mass., May 19.—The new steamer Kaiserin Augusta Victoria of the Hamburg-American line from Hamburg, was reported 100 miles east of Nantucket lightship at 3:40 a.m. today and will probably reach her dock about 7 a.m. tomorrow. LIZARD, May 19.—Steamer Philadelphia, from New York, was reported 120 miles west of this point at 5:40 today and will probably reach Plymouth about 4:30 p.m.

British Base Ball Season Opened LONDON, May 19,-The British Base Bal

coclation will open the season at the nunds of the Woolwich Arsenal Club this ernoon with a match between Oxford versity and London. The Corner

and tomorrow.

Fair and cooler tonight

Weather.

CLINICAL DIRECTOR His Testimony Before the Olcott

Committee Today.

Does Not Think a Larger Force of Attendants Needed.

THE FOOD SUPPLY PROBLEM

A Difficult One to Solve-Material is Fair, but the Cooking Not

The Olcott special committee of the House today resumed its inquiry into the Government Hospital for the Insane, across the river. Dr. Clark, clinical director of the

hospital, was on the stand during the en-

tire morning session.. He was questioned at great length by committee members concerning conditions in the institution. But little of the testimony was of general interest. Dr. Charles H. Clark, one of the physicians under Dr. White, at the Government Hospital for the nsane, was the first witness called before the committee today. Dr. Clark, since April 1, 1906, has been clinical director of the hospital. The position was created by the board of visitors at its last meeting. Prior to his promotion Dr. Clark said he had been second assistant physician of the institution.

In response to questions by Rangesonte.

physician of the institution.

In response to questions by Representative Smyser Dr. Clark said that the creation of the position had been under consideration for several years. Dr. White had recommended the creation of the position in his annual report for 1904. Dr. Clark told the committee the details of his duties and was questioned at some length concerning them.

cerning them.
Dr. Clark said, during the course of his Dr. Clark said, during the course of his testimony, that when the board of charities took up the matter some time ago there were many non-resident insane in the hospital. There was an accumulation of White House cranks dating back for years. Most of these people had now been distributed back to institutions in their respective distributed.

Insane Criminals.

There were 140 insane criminals in St. Elizabeth's, Dr. Clark said:

"But are they really crazy?" asked Representative Smyser. "Well," replied the witness, "I haven" examined all of them. There may be several individual cases of feigned insanity, but most of them are really insane."
Dr. Clark said that before Dr. White's time very few clinical records were kept.

time very few clinical records were kept. The present superintendent had inaugurated a system of keeping the records very carefully. St. Elizabeth's had more bed-ridden patients, proportionately, than any other institution in the country. This class numbered between 250 and 300.

At one institution where Dr. Clark was employed all the patients were compelled to work. He did not think this could be done at St. Elizabeth in could be

done at St. Elizabeth's owing to the fact that there were more than 700 patients at the asylum over sixty years of age.

Dr. Clark described various forms of insanity growing out of the use of alcohol.
"I see I've got to quit drinking," remarked Representative Smyser, gloomily.
"By the way, doctor, continued Mr. Smy-

ser, "did you see that article published in a local paper, stating that insanity increased during the strawberry season?"

"No, I did not," replied Dr. Clark.

"Guess I've got to cut out strawberries, too," said Mr. Smyser, shaking his head.

"You seem to be mightly afraid of going to St. Elizabeth's," suggested Chairman Olcott, amid general laughter.

No More Attendants Needed. Dr. Clark said he didn't think any more attendants were required at St. Elizabeth's. There were more, proportionately, at the asylum now than at most other in

stitutions. At the Messallin State Hospital there were 1,462 patients and eighty attendants, a ratio of one to eighteen. At St. Elizabeth's the ratio of attendants to patients was one to eight. At the Columbus State Hospital there were 1,589 patients and 115 attendants, a ratio of one to fourteen. At the Manhattan State Hospital of New York there were 4,355 patients, about 1.800 more than in St. Elizabeth's, although the Manhattan Hospital had only twelve more attendants than at St. Elizabeth's. Dr. Clark tendants than at St. Elizabeth's. Dr. Clark gave other statistics along the same line. Dr. Clark, continuing his testimony, gave the number of patients and attendants in

Some complaints had been made to him of the harsh treatment of patients.

Such complaints had always been promptly investigated and appropriate action taken. Discharge always followed the abuse of patients in any manner.

The Food Supply. "The food stuff at the hospital is a very broad subject," said Dr. Clark. There were broad subject," said Dr. Clark. There were seven distributing kitchens in the institution. He had inspected the food at various times and could only speak favorably of it. Sometimes the food was poorly cooked. In such cases the cook was usually discharged. The food was of fair quality and plentiful in quantity.

"We use a great deal of milk in the institution," said Dr. Clark, "An average of 300 gali, as of milk a day is used in the institution. Most of it goes to the sick wards.

"The grade of milk is about the best in the county," said Dr. Clark, in concluding his testimony on this point. Dr. Clark had never fed a patient through

the nose except when absolutely necessary. He had kept one patient—a woman—alive for eight months by nasal feeling. The patient finally recovered and left the hos-Dr. Clark referred to various cases mentioned by previous witnesses before the committee. He produced the original records of the cases, to disprove the previous testimony which tended to show ill treatment of patients.

According to Dr. Clark the superinten-

dent went through the wards every Sunday. He had seen committees of three of the board of visitors frequently at the asylum. The full board met at the asylum every six months. But there was no general inspection by the board.

POSTMASTERS EXONERATED

Charges of Undue Political Activity / Found Unsustained.

Postmaster General Cortelyou has announced the conclusion of the investigation of the charges preferred some time ago by Mr. Mark M. Fagan, mayor of Jersey City, against the postmasters at Hoboken, West-Hoboken, Bayonne, Arlington and Weehaw-ken, N. J., in which it was alleged that they were guilty of undue political activity. An exhaustive inquiry has been made into the matter by post office inspectors special-